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S E C R E T MONTREAL 000979

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR CA/VO/L/C and INR/IC and SA/INS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 07/25/2013

TAGS: [PTER](#) [KVPR](#) [PINR](#)

SUBJECT: TAMIL TIGERS FUND-RAISER IN MONTREAL

Classified By: Bernadette Allen, Principal Officer; Reasons
1.5 B and D

1. (S/NF) Summary: A Local Canadian Law Enforcement Source has informed Post that there will be a "Tamil Olympics" the week of 28 July 2003 in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Source reports that this event is a fund raiser for the Tamil Tigers Terrorist Organization (LTTE).

2. (S/NF) According to the reliable source the "Tamil Olympics" is a gathering of individuals of Sri Lankan decent who now live in Canada. The gathering includes many activities including several sporting games, and attracts Sri Lankans from all over Canada. According to Source at last year's "Olympics" individuals were pressured into "donating" gold jewelry and cash. Local Law Enforcement attempted to track the jewelry; however, according to Source the jewelry passed through many individuals and the trail was lost. Local Law Enforcement believes that the money derived from the jewelry was funneled to the LTTE. Source also states that individuals were threatened with violence to give money to various charities that Law Enforcement believes funneled the money to the LTTE. Local Law Enforcement was not able to make any arrests because the individuals involved in the extortion would not come forward to talk to Law Enforcement.

3. (S/NF) Source also stated that his branch of Local Law Enforcement was being pressured to "find something on the LTTE soon because the (Canadian) Government wants to put the LTTE on the (Canadian) list of Terrorist Organizations." Source stated that Local Law Enforcement would have the "Olympics" under surveillance but added that they have had significant problems infiltrating the local Tamil groups in the past because they are a very tight-knit, homogeneous group.
ALLEN